

Practitioner's Docket No.: 789\_056

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Yukihiisa TAKEUCHI and Kazuyoshi SHIBATA

Ser. No.: 09/677,304

Group Art Unit: 2834

Filed: September 29, 2000

Examiner: Dougherty, T.

Confirmation No.: 2413

For: PIEZOELECTRIC/ELECTROSTRICTIVE DEVICE

Box AF  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231



AMENDMENT

Sir:

Further to the RCE filed August 30, 2002 (via Express mail), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

**Please add new claim 8 as follows:**

8. (New) A piezoelectric/electrostrictive device comprising:
- a pair of mutually opposing thin plate sections made of metal and a fixation section for supporting said thin plate sections;
  - an object attached to forward end portions of said pair of thin plate sections; and
  - one or more unimorph piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements arranged on at least one thin plate section of said pair of thin plate sections, said at least one thin plate section defining a substrate for each respective unimorph piezoelectric/electrostrictive element, wherein each of said piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements includes a piezoelectric/electrostrictive operating portion defined between opposed electrodes, and the piezoelectric/electrostrictive operating portion extends from an outer surface of the fixation section onto at least a portion of the thin plate sections, wherein:
    - an areal size of a surface of said object opposed to said thin plate section is larger than an areal size of an object attachment surface of said thin plate section.